



A Union of Professionals

University Council-AFT

Representing Non-Senate Faculty and Librarians of the University of California

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UC-AFT Insider December 2008

To UC-AFT-represented faculty and librarians:

Below please find the first installment of the UC-AFT Insider. This is an electronic newsletter that will issue each month during the academic year to update you on the union's activities and other items of interest. The Insider is prepared by UC-AFT's new Director for Communication and Education, Bill Quirk. Please direct any comments, feedback, or ideas for future news items to Bill at aftquirk@rain.org.

Karen Sawislak
Executive Director, UC-AFT

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UC-AFT Insider
December 1, 2008

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- November 19th Regent's meeting- rallies in San Francisco, Riverside and Santa Cruz
- UCLA appointments-After thousands in backpay...is the problem solved?
- UC budget update- Most recent release from UCOP

Librarian bargaining update

The librarian bargaining team met twice with UC negotiators during the month of November. The first two days of negotiations were devoted to UC-AFT presentations on salary inequities and their effect on recruitment and retention, UC funding sources that could be used to bring UC librarians to wage parity with CSU librarians, and the critical need for better professional development funding to keep librarians competitive in their field. More information on librarian bargaining can be found here: <http://www.cft.org/uploads/uc/docs/talkptslib.pdf>

Meanwhile, librarians at UC Riverside have collected over 2,000 signatures on petitions from students, lecturers, senate faculty, and administrators over the past two months in support of more competitive salaries for UC librarians. They accomplished this by staffing a table outside the front door of one of the libraries for 1-2 hours, two days a week. Librarians on other campuses have begun tabling, collecting signatures on the petition, holding interviews on campus radio, and meeting with chancellors. To hear a live streaming interview with UC-AFT Chief Negotiator, Mike Rotkin and UCSB Librarian Gary Colmenar, on the KCSB radio show *No Alibis*, visit: <http://www.kcsb.org/> at 9:15am on Wednesday December 3rd.

UC Union Coalition rally at Regent's meeting

At 8:30 a.m. Wednesday, November 19, a long line of UC union members, students, and community members, formed outside the auditorium in the community center building at the UCSF Mission Bay Campus. They were there to speak during the public comment period, and to protest various UC policies and practices, including student fee hikes, wage inequities, medical center closures and the start of pension contributions without shared governance of the pension fund. Two members of UC-AFT spoke during public comment about issues facing UC libraries and librarians. An impromptu protest broke out when the Regents refused to extend the public comment period. Some campuses held rallies in support of those attending the Regent's meeting. Librarians at UC Riverside marched around the Bell Tower and through the new Commons with members of UPTE, CUE, and AFSCME carrying picket signs and distributing flyers to educate students about current negotiations. The union coalition at UCSC, University Labor United (ULU) held a demonstration at the main entrance to the campus. Twenty to thirty members of the campus unions, including 10 or so UC-AFT Lecturers and Librarians, came out for the early morning action. They carried signs and passed out leaflets to faculty, staff and students entering the campus. It was a lively, informative, and effective action, showing the unity of all of the UC unions at UCSC. For a first hand account of the rally at the Regent's meeting, visit: <http://berkeleyaft.org/>

UCLA appointments and salary increases: Problem solved?

UC-AFT officers and staff at UCLA have spent countless hours over the last year investigating late appointments, and associated late pay increases. We found much more than we anticipated. To date, we've identified nearly one dozen individuals who were not given their merit increase,

some more than one, going back six or more years. We've also identified dozens of individuals who haven't received their annual cost of living increases, or whose continuing appointment was granted 1 month to 1.5 years late. All of these issues cost our members money. We are in the process of ensuring back pay for all those affected. We've learned that UCLA department MSO's and academic personnel managers are often not given adequate training on the Unit 18 contract, and oversight at the College level has been very poor. Please contact your local staff or steward if you have any questions regarding your appointment and pay. Follow this link to read an article by UC-AFT President and UCLA lecturer, Bob Samuels, on the UCLA appointments issue.

http://www.cft.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=315:uc-aft-perspective&catid=6:universities&Itemid=25

UC budget update

A recent UCOP release mentions the possibility of hiring more lecturers in lieu of tenure track faculty as a result of state budget cuts. The link below leads to the most recent announcement from UCOP on the status of the budget.

<http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/news/article/19016>
LA Times article-UC asks state for bigger budget to avoid fee hikes
<http://www.latimes.com/news/local/la-me-uc21-2008nov21.0.941418.story>

To become a member of UC-AFT, please fill out the attached membership form, or download one from our website, and mail it to the address on the bottom of the form.

<http://www.cft.org/uploads/uc/docs/memberform.pdf>

Links, Blogs, etc.

California Federation of Teachers
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